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## Quotable Quote

**"History does not long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or the timid."**

**— President Dwight D. Eisenhower, first inaugural address, Jan. 20, 1953**

## General Jumper testifies before committee

WASHINGTON — Service chiefs answer questions during a hearing of the Senate Committee on Armed Services here Feb. 10. They are (from left) Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vernon Clark, Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Michael Hagee and Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. John Jumper. See related story on page 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi)



## IDT policy change gives augmentees flexibility

**by Tech. Sgt. Rob Mims**  
*ARPC Public Affairs*

A recent policy change modifies the inactive duty training policy for individual mobilization augmentees, and gives Reservists more flexibility to schedule training requirements.

"While it is expected our IMAs will participate on a quarterly basis to maintain viability and visibility within their active-duty units, the loss of flexibility in mandating such a policy has shown no substantive improvements in budgetary control or IMA readiness," wrote Lt. Gen. John Bradley, chief of Air Force Reserve, in the memorandum changing the policy.

According to the new policy, Reservists and their supervisors are free to schedule training whenever they see fit within the first three quarters of the fiscal year; however, there are stipulations to this new

found freedom of choice.

The quarterly training days now are restricted only in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year.

Waivers must be approved by the Air Reserve Personnel Center commander, officials said.

Reservists, along with their supervisor or program managers, still must develop an annual schedule of training periods before each fiscal year.

All training periods must be approved in writing by the Airman's supervisor with an information copy sent to the appropriately assigned program manager before the training period.

The training days must prepare the reservist for mobilization, officials said.

For more information, IMAs can contact their program manager or call the personnel center at DSN 926-6503 or commercial (303) 676-6503.

## Commentary

# Maybe a 'Thank You' is in order...

Commentary by Geoff Janes

78th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFPN)** — Have you ever watched someone right before he or she cries? It's a very humbling experience.

Picture Staff Sgt. So-and-So getting off the refueling plane at his home station. He puts his right foot on the flight line and looks around for his family or friends. It has only been 45 days, but it feels like an eternity.

In the waiting crowd, there she stands — all 39 inches of her — smile wide as the Nile, flag in her hand. "Daddy!!!" she cries.

He drops his bags, leans down and swoops her up like a stack of money. But her grasping little arms around his neck are worth more than any paycheck, more than any 5,000 square-foot house, Jaguar, Mercedes, Ping golf clubs, CDs, whatever.

"I'm home," he whispers softly in his wife's ear before looking skyward to his God. It feels so good to know someone was waiting.

The commander, or vice commander, steps up, shakes his hand. It matters.

"What I've been doing matters," he thinks.

Back at his home-station job, he left work early today. He has cooked dinner, and only wants to make his wife smile.

At another time, someplace else, a female warrior straightens the collar on her uniform as she steps off the surveillance plane. She stands proud. She didn't have to worry about anything. He had it covered.

In the crowd her son holds a piece of poster board that he and daddy have written "Welcome Home Mommy" in black magic marker. Her little angel has cut out pictures from his favorite comic book and pasted them to the poster. Everyone needs a hero.

Blue, brown, green and hazel eyes, they all well up like someone has turned on a faucet.

The eye brims, it leaks, it breaks the dam of an eyelid and streams down a face covered with sadness and happiness mixed with uncertainty.

They are home, and all you can do is watch, watch and pray for good things. Pray for happiness, pray for peace, pray for all of them.

And as you watch the homecoming, you think, "If you haven't

thanked a military member lately, you should."

They are out there facing the mortars, listening to the snap of rounds firing above their heads, not to mention those who hear the snap that slams into their chests, arms, legs... Even so, there are some who move out sharply while a voice in the back of their head asks, "Was it worth the money for college?"

All the while, you're in your colonial, Cape Cod or ranch style house, watching it all on CNN. You might be watching it all from the warmth and safety of your living room.

You might be numb; but still, your next door neighbor's son came home in a box today.

Your cousin's daughter won't be finishing college. She died in the heat of battle last week.

*In the waiting crowd,  
there she stands —  
all 39 inches of her  
— smile wide as the  
Nile, flag in her  
hand. "Daddy!!!"  
she cries.*

I remember being on the Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., burial team during my time in the Army. I remember saluting the dead. I remember carrying a coffin to a hole in the ground and thanking God it wasn't me.

And I remember the tears, tears that could humble even a saint.

Maybe I'll go tell my neighbor, with his Air Force flag and his starched uniform, how much I appreciate what he's been doing for my country.

Maybe we'll talk politics or religion, maybe we'll talk about fishing, or how good it feels to be helping a country that needs a hand. Maybe we'll smile and have a beer as we talk about how lucky we are to live in a free country.

try.

And all the while, I'll know in my heart that it's all because of people just like my neighbor.

I think we all need to remember the fact that our friends and family members who wear the uniform press on with their duties regardless of the world situation.

There are people joining the military heartily despite the fact that there's a war going on.

Other countries in the world have had their armies disintegrate because of casualties. Their people were not dedicated to the cause they served.

That is what separates them from the mightiest nation on earth, the United States of America.

Just as with POW/MIA Day, we must always remember. So the next time you see someone in a military uniform, take two seconds out of your day to say thanks.

Air Reserve Personnel

## UPDATE

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# ReserveNet spiral 2 rolled out by AFRC

by Lt. Col. John Babcock

ARPC Communications and Information deputy director

Recently, Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command rolled out Spiral 2 of ReserveNet. This new network personnel support system is designed to support all categories of reservist at all levels of service.

ReserveNet, or ResNet, provides the traditional reservists and initial mobilization augmentees a way to manage and coordinate their participation with their organization via the Internet and a personal computer.

It is designed to automate the procedures associated with Reserve participation. It provides the capability to process, store, and retrieve participation management information. At the same time it can generate reports in a real-time operating environment to help facilitate day-to-day business. Best of all, this newest version simplifies access.

The member logs into ResNet. Once logged in he or she requests participation days and duty type. Once the request is posted, the system generates an e-mail confirmation. As the request progresses through the approval and orders generation cycle, the member can view the status.

Members can also view the organization calendar which has all events and activities such as Unit Training Assembly and annual tour schedules.

Because ResNet tracks all types of duty, members can manage UTAs, Annual Flying Training Period, Annual Ground Training Period, AT, Inactive Duty Training, etc. They can search the database for e-mail addresses and send e-mails right from a Web page. They can also update their e-mail address from a link on every ResNet Web page.



Serving as a great management tool, supervisors can also monitor and manage activities along with members. Once participation is approved, unit administration officials can manage the orders generation process. Supervisors and administrators can generate messages and post them via Web pads and group e-mail lists. They can monitor participation levels and generate summary reports.

ResNet also serves as a command tool. Through ResNet, commanders have the ability to identify the duty status of every person in their organization at a glance. It provides the commander a tool to monitor participation levels and to generate association participation statistics. Commanders can also post messages.

The flow of data for ReserveNet is user submitted administrative and personnel data into the system.

Once information is input to the system, the data manipulation performed by the user is limited to viewing, changing, or updating. The outputs for ReserveNet are queried reports generated by the system at the request of the user. Figure 3.1, ReserveNet Communications Architecture System Hardware, displays a functional diagram.

With the rollout of Spiral 2, members can now do some of the following: Enter duty request by start and end date rather than enter duty request on a day-by-day basis; create customized roles and assign permissions for your organization; create custom work areas/duty sections; track the process of a submitted duty request; and much more.

For more information and useful tools, visit the Web site at <https://129.54.1.37/v2/home.aspx>. Once you visit the site, please let designers and maintainers know what you think via e-mail at [reservenet@arpc.denver.af.mil](mailto:reservenet@arpc.denver.af.mil).

## General Jumper testifies on 2006 Air Force posture, budget

by Tech. Sgt. David A. Jablonski

Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper testified Feb. 10 before the Senate Committee on Armed Services on the defense authorization request for fiscal 2006.

The four service chiefs provided posture statements and answered questions about how each branch developed their portion of next year's budget.

General Jumper's opening remarks described how the Air Force is fighting and winning the war on terrorism.

He said more than 30,000 Airmen are deployed to 14 forward bases in operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, while 10,000 more continue supporting Operation Noble Eagle at home. About 2,000

Airmen are on convoy duty in Iraq.

Guard and Reserve Airmen are flying 55 percent of the sorties overseas and 80 percent of the Noble Eagle sorties over the United States.

With an eye on the future, General Jumper said, the Air Force will continue to purchase as many unmanned aerial vehicles as contractors can produce and looks to the F/A-22 Raptor to guard against enemies who contest airspace around the world.

He also stressed that the service seeks to transform space communication and space-based radar to connect to the warfighter and make those assets more useful to commanders on the ground.

The Air Force plans to modernize while, "maintaining the oldest fleet we've ever had," he said.

During questioning, Sen. Saxby

Chambliss asked General Jumper about the Air Force's ability to maintain air superiority in the future.

"In every conflict over the last several decades, we've been able to maintain air superiority and dominance," Senator Chambliss said.

"General, I don't want us to be in a fair fight," he said. "I want the men and women who fly for you, as well as every other branch, to have the capability of knocking anything off the ground that may be shot at us, or anything coming out of the sky that might shoot at us, or shoot at our men and women on the ground."

"Is there any other weapon system out there today that can provide the capability to prevent that from happening other than the F-22," he asked.

**See "Budget" on page 11**



## President asks for more money, fewer Air Force reservists

**WASHINGTON** – The president's proposed defense budget for next year seeks \$3.9 billion in funding for Air Force Reserve Command and an end-strength of 74,000 reservists.

The fiscal 2006 request covers the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, 2005. It asks for 2,100 fewer Air Force reservists than the 76,100 authorized in fiscal 2005.

Senior Department of Defense officials announced the overall defense budget request of \$419.3 billion. The Air Force is to get \$127.5 billion.

"This budget represents the latest installment in the president's strong commitment to transforming this department to face the challenges of the 21st century," said Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in a news release Feb. 7. "We continue our transition to a more agile, deployable and lethal force.

"We are a nation at war," the secretary added. "The president's budget, together with the supplemental spending proposals the president has made, provides the men and women in uniform what they need to prevail."

In the president's budget, the Air Force Reserve requests funding for three separate appropriations – operation and maintenance, reserve personnel, and military construction.

Most of the AFRC portion of the FY 2006 President's Budget request – \$2.5 billion – is for O & M funds to train, organize and administer the command. The Reserve received \$2.24 billion in O & M funds in fiscal 2005.

In 2006, another \$1.31 billion goes to the reserve personnel

appropriation for military personnel participation and training requirements. This funding includes a military pay raise of 3.5 percent, and the addition of 390 full time Active Guard and Reserve people. The requested reserve personnel appropriation represents a \$155.2 million decrease compared to that received for the fiscal 2005 reserve personnel appropriation.

Requested funding for military construction in FY 2006 is \$79.3 million. These funds would pay for 14 major projects in eight states. In this fiscal 2005, the Reserve is getting \$124 million for military construction, which includes major and minor projects, and planning and design. In his fiscal 2005 budget request, the president had recommended \$84.6 million, but Congress added \$39.4 million more to fund seven additional projects.

Finally, Congress added another \$281 million to help the Reserve in fiscal 2005 – \$40 million in the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation and \$241 million in aircraft procure-

urement with the active duty Air Force.

Congress uses the president's budget as a blueprint to draft appropriations legislation. After both houses of Congress approve their version of the bill, the two versions go to a joint conference committee to resolve differences in the two bills. After both houses of Congress approve the reconciled version of the bill, it goes to the president to be signed into law. (AFRC News Service)



## New POV mileage reimbursement released

New mileage reimbursement rates for federal employees who use privately owned vehicles while on official travel were recently release. The new rates are:

★ automobile increased from \$0.375 to \$0.405 per mile;

★ airplane increased from \$0.955 to \$1.07 per mile;

★ motorcycle increased from \$0.285 to \$0.305 per mile.

Additionally, based on updated data for the two-tiered reimbursement rates reflecting costs to an agency of operating a government-furnished vehicle, the current reimbursement rate of \$0.270 per mile increased to \$0.285 per mile (when a GFV is avail-



able to an employee). The current reimbursement rate of \$0.105 per mile (when a GFV is assigned directly to an employee) remains the same.

Federal Travel Regulation Amendment 2005-01, Case 2005-301, were published in the Federal Register on Feb. 4.

The new rates also became effective Feb. 4, and apply to official travel per-

formed on or after that date.

The new rates are posted on the Travel Management Policy homepage at <http://www.gsa.gov/travelpolicy>. (Courtesy of [www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov))

## New feature in WOTS

Effective March 7, 2005, IMA's can view and print their RPA training and tour orders directly out of the Web Orders Transaction System! Orders submitted and published in WOTS after that date will no longer be e-mailed or mailed.

Users will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to be able to print

orders. Program Managers can also access their IMA's orders for those IMAs who do not have internet access. Further instructions on how to view and print orders are located on the ARPC WOTS Web site at <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/orders/wots.htm>.

# DFAS moves to new Web site address

**ARLINGTON, Va.** — The Defense Finance and Accounting Service public Web site moved to a new location on the Internet, officials announced March 2.

The old site, [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil), will remain available through March 31.

Then, users will be redirected to the new site, [www.dod.mil/dfas](http://www.dod.mil/dfas), and links to pages on the previous site will generate an error message notifying users of the move, officials said.

Webmasters who link to the site or pages within the site should review their links and update them accordingly, officials said.

The move enhances the performance of the site by providing redundancy to prevent down time and by providing an opportunity for enhanced features in the future, officials said.

“Our goal is to provide the best service and products possible to the men and women who defend America,” said Claudia

Bogard, the service’s corporate communications director. “With this move, our customers can rely on DFAS for faster access to information whenever they need it from anywhere around the globe at any hour of the day or night.”

Officials said the move also will provide the following benefits:

- Increase the speed of the site by more than 12 times.

- Improve search capability to allow DFAS content to be found on any of DoD dot-mil sites.

- Allow DFAS content to be found at [www.dod.mil/dfas](http://www.dod.mil/dfas), [www.defense.mil/dfas](http://www.defense.mil/dfas), [www.pentagon.gov/dfas](http://www.pentagon.gov/dfas), [www.defense.gov/dfas](http://www.defense.gov/dfas), [www.defenselink.mil/dfas](http://www.defenselink.mil/dfas) or [www.defense.gov/dfas](http://www.defense.gov/dfas).

- Create stronger alignment between DFAS and DoD public Web sites.

- Reduce the burden of public Web traffic to DFAS networks.

(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)

## Personal travel card information lost, no evidence of misuse

by Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — About 900,000 Defense Department employees may be affected by Bank of America’s loss and the possible compromise of government travel card information, Pentagon officials said Feb. 25.

The General Services Administration and Bank of America notified DOD officials that “SmartPay” travel cards are affected. Officials said Bank of America has been monitoring the affected accounts, and there has been no evidence of fraud or misuse of the accounts.

Bank of America officials are sending letters to affected employees.

“Information regarding travel card program accounts for individual cardholders has been lost, and it is possible that that information has been compromised, though we don’t believe that that is the case,” said Teresa McKay, the Defense Department’s deputy chief financial officer.

Secret Service agents are conducting the investigation, with help from the Defense

Criminal Investigative Service. Officials said that although there has been no evidence of criminal activity, release of details on the circumstances of the loss could jeopardize the investigation.

“Indications right now are that it is an accidental event,” Ms. McKay said. “The bank has been monitoring the accounts involved from the onset, and to date there has been no indication of fraudulent activity.”

The information is personal cardholder information — names, Social Security numbers, addresses and account numbers — on magnetic tape. The loss occurred in late December. GSA officials notified DOD on Jan. 19. Ms. McKay said the delay was necessary to protect the integrity of the investigation.

“The bank is in the process of notifying cardholders of the situation,” she said. “They will be given a special customer service number that has been set up by the bank specifically for this purpose. If

(cardholders) have any questions, they can contact the bank. If they would like, they may request that the bank cancel the card and reissue a card to them.”

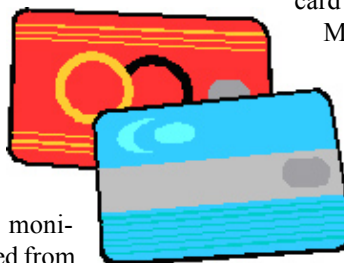
Ms. McKay said that consumers should always keep an eye on any credit accounts they have.

“It’s always prudent for any cardholder to monitor their monthly statements (and) dispute any

charges they may question, and also it’s important for all of us to get a credit report at least once a year and look at the content of that report,” she said.

Bank of America has set up a hotline for those affected. The number is (800) 493-8444. Cardholders who notice irregularities in their accounts should call the Bank of America at the number printed on the back of their cards, Ms. McKay said.

“If you are an affected cardholder, you may contact Bank of America for information on obtaining a free credit report,” she said. (Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)



## Scam targets families of servicemembers killed in action

**WASHINGTON** — Officials with the Department of Homeland Security are warning the public about two new Iraq-related Internet scams, including one directed at the relatives of fallen U.S. servicemembers.

“These new Internet fraud schemes are among the worst we have ever encountered,” said Michael Garcia, assistant secretary of homeland security for immigration and customs enforcement. “Most troubling is the fact that some are targeting the relatives of U.S. Soldiers killed in Iraq. We are also concerned

about the fact that these criminals are impersonating (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) agents and referring to ICE’s official Web site in an effort to steal money from Americans who have lost loved ones.”

The first scheme involves e-mail sent to relatives of U.S. servicemembers killed in Iraq. Claiming to be a volunteer working with U.S. forces, the sender states that a late friend, who also was

See “Scams” on page 7

# Twice-yearly TSP 'open season' limitations end July 1

by Gerry J. Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — Defense Department civilians and servicemembers building tax-free retirement accounts through the Thrift Savings Plan soon will be able to change their investment options at any time instead of just twice a year.

Current biannual TSP "open season" investment-choice windows will end July 1, said Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council. TSP participants, she said, will be able to switch their retirement account options at any time.

Colonel Fenton said "there's not going to be the two open seasons during the year" where people can sign up for the retirement savings and investment program, change their contribution levels or change investment options.

Military people and civilians covered by the Civil Service Retirement System can contribute up to 10 percent of their paycheck to establish tax-free retirement accounts that grow from accumulated savings and investments in bonds, stocks and in-

ternational funds. Employees covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System can contribute up to 15 percent in 2005. From 2006 on, no limit will apply to any participants in TSP.

Another TSP change also slated to start July 1 gives participants the choice of having a financial manager automatically adjust how funds are invested as market conditions change, officials said.

"They'll move you from equities to bonds when you need to," Colonel Fenton said, which should assist participants in maximizing their contributions.

Servicemembers have been eligible to establish tax-free TSP retirement accounts since January 2002, she said. Establishing a TSP account is a good idea even for those servicemembers who do not serve long enough to qualify for a pension, Colonel Fenton said. TSP funds accumulated during military service, she said, can be transferred to participating federal agency TSPs if a departing servicemember takes a government civilian job.

And, TSP savings can also be rolled into nongovernment civilian employers' individual retirement accounts, the colonel said. *(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)*

## Just say NO to double bagging and YES to paper bags

by Bonnie Powell

DECA

**FORT LEE, Va.** — Shopping in the commissary can save military families 30 percent or more. Now, customers can help commissaries in the United States hold the line on supply costs by asking customers to "just say no" to double bagging and say "paper please" when they get to the register.

With more than 92 million customer transactions per year, grocery bags cost commissaries nearly \$20 million annually. The cost of plastic bags has risen more than 30 percent in the last two years due to the rise in oil prices, which directly affects the cost of manufacturing plastic bags.

"Every extra dollar we spend on bags is a dollar we may not have for payroll or other commissary services," said Patrick B. Nixon, acting director and chief executive officer. "Customers can help DeCA control costs by switching to paper bags and eliminating double bagging."

Baggers, who are not employees of DeCA, will be given fact sheets informing them of the costs of double bagging and plastic to encourage them to participate in the effort to hold the line on rising costs. Statistics show that commissaries cur-

rently use 80 percent plastic to 20 percent paper. DeCA officials want to see those percentages reversed.

"Several years ago the plastic was less expensive so we encouraged going with plastic bags," said Nixon. "Now paper is the more economical choice."

Customers who want plastic or double bags will be accommodated, but

"we hope customers are interested in helping their commis-

sary hold down costs," said Scott Simpson, chief operating officer for the De-

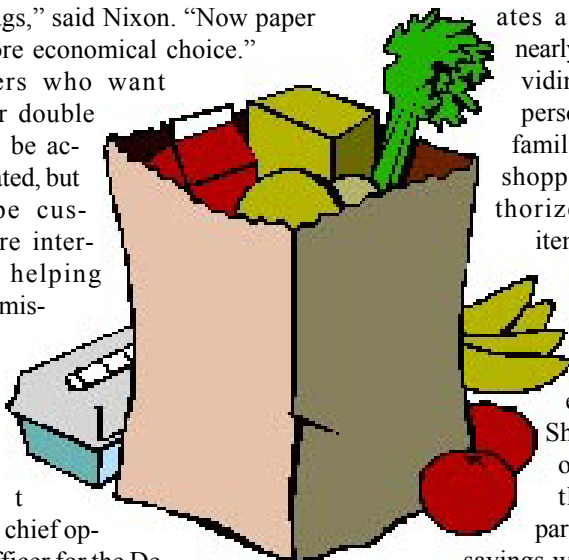
fense Commissary Agency. "We hope when they get to the register they'll say 'no' to double bagging and 'yes, paper please' to their bagger."

The awareness campaign to encourage customers to switch to paper bags is only taking place in U.S. commissaries because the cost of shipping the much bulkier pa-

per bags to Europe and the Far East outweighs any savings obtained by switching to paper. The campaign to reduce double bagging is worldwide.

The Defense Commissary Agency operates a worldwide chain of nearly 275 commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families in a safe and secure shopping environment. Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of 30 percent or more on their purchases compared to commercial prices

— savings worth more than \$2,700 annually for a family of four. A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country.



# Employer support crucial to IMA success at command

by Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Thibault  
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — A ceremony recognizing a local civilian employer's support of Air Force Space Command Reservist Staff Sergeant Raul Gonzalez's military service was held Tuesday at the Woodmen Road Sam's Club, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Col. Kevin Boggs, Headquarters Air Force Space Command chief of Personnel, presented a "My Boss is a Patriot" certificate to Peter S. Miller, the civilian supervisor of Sergeant Gonzalez.

The "My Boss is a Patriot" Program is sponsored by the Colorado Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense volunteer organization whose goal is to support America's employers who share their employees with the nation.

Colonel Boggs stated that without the understanding and support of employers like Mr. Miller, our Guardsmen and Reservists would not have the flexibility to perform their important military missions. He went on to say that Guardsmen and Reservists across the country are an integral part of the "Total Force" and are critical to this nation's defense and freedom.

"It is a pleasure knowing that my reservists are not only taken care of in the Air Force, but also by their civilian employers. We could not do our jobs without your support," said Colonel Boggs.

Sergeant Gonzalez, a Sam's Club employee, is also an individual mobilized augmentee assigned to AFSPC personnel division.

Sergeant Gonzalez, who has been on extended orders since 2002, has assisted HQ AFSPC Family Matters achieve its goal of implementing Family Support services for the command supporting the Reserve, IMA and Guard resources. His main duties have included all aspects related to supporting the family members of activated or mobilized Reservist and Guard personnel.

Sergeant Gonzalez credits the support of his civilian employer as a crucial factor in accomplishing his military mission.

"Mr. Miller has been great. He gives me the flexibility to work and succeed at both jobs," said Sergeant Gonzalez.

Juggling two jobs can be trying, but together the two have made it a positive for both organizations.

"In the past, Raul's supervisors laid him off during his reserve duty but I didn't want to lose him. He's awesome! So we sat down and worked out a schedule that meets both our needs," said Mr. Miller.

Mr. Miller is not new to the life of a Reservist. He has been serving in the Army Reserve since January 2004. However, his interaction with Sergeant Gonzalez has him thinking of crossing into the blue.

Mr. Miller said he's impressed with the way the Air Force handles quality of life issues and the way they take care of their people. He recently talked with a local recruiter and has started the paperwork for the transfer.

For more information on the "My Boss is a Patriot" program, go to [www.esgr.com](http://www.esgr.com).

(Courtesy of Air Force Space Command News Service)

## Citizen airman, employer award competition begins

**WASHINGTON** — April 1 is the deadline to nominate reservists and their employers for Air Force Reserve Command's Citizen Airman Award and Employer of the Year Award.

The awards recognize both an enlisted person and an officer who deployed in support of current operations in 2004. The employer award honors the person who strongly supported the activation and deployment of one or more Citizen Airmen.

Nominees submit a one-page narrative

of the reservist's contribution, a one-page narrative of how the employer helped his or her reservist and the Air Force Reserve, and a biography on the reservist or employer. Nominations should be mailed to Chief Master Sgt. Troy McIntosh, 12313 Manchester Way, Woodbridge, VA 22192; faxed to DSN 227-9103 or commercial (703) 697-9103; or e-mailed to [Troy.McIntosh@pentagon.af.mil](mailto:Troy.McIntosh@pentagon.af.mil) to arrive no later than April 1.

After a panel reviews the nominations,

AFRC Commander Lt. Gen. John Bradley will select the winning entries.

The Air Force Association will recognize the selected Reservists and employers at its annual convention in Washington in September. The Reservists receive a command plaque, and the employers get an AFRC eagle trophy.

The awards program pays the travel expenses of the employers and their spouses. Units fund the selected reservists' trips. (AFRC News Service)

## Scams from page 5

a U.S. servicemember killed in Iraq, was a very good friend of the relatives' slain son or daughter.

The sender then goes on to ask for assistance in obtaining funds kept for them by the deceased friend, promising more details when the relative responds to the e-mail. The sender then adds a link to the portion of Immigration and Customs Enforcement's actual Web site discussing operations in Iraq.

In the second scheme, a blanket e-mail is being distributed that claims to be from an Immigration and Customs Enforcement offi-

cial in Iraq who is responsible for tracking down funds looted from the Iraqi Central Bank by Saddam Hussein's son.

The sender lists ICE's Web site address in the e-mail in an effort to seem credible. The sender then asks for confirmation of the e-mail address of the recipient, stating, "there is a very important and confidential matter which I want us both to discuss."

Officials in the ICE Cyber Crimes Center in northern Virginia and the ICE Office of Professional Responsibility here, are investigating the schemes.

Bogus e-mail solicitations should ignore and delete them, Mr. Garcia said. (Courtesy of American Forces Press Service from a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement news release)



# New civilian personnel rules published

by Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — Officials from the Department of Defense and Office of Personnel Management are inviting people to comment on the regulations that will govern how the new National Security Personnel System will operate.

These regulations appear in the Feb. 14 Federal Register.

Navy Secretary Gordon England said once the public comment period ends March 16, the officials will confer with the various federal employee unions and then give all comments "fair and full consideration." Secretary England serves as the DOD senior executive overseeing the system.

"Our plan, then, is to begin the implementation this summer," he said. "We'll learn through doing, we'll do this in phases, and we will progressively add more and more employees (and) learn as we go until completion at the end of 2008."

The publication marks the end of the first phase of implementing the new personnel system. The system, enacted by Congress in 2003, will allow DOD officials to better manage civilian personnel, they said. Once in place, DOD officials will be able to shift people among jobs, hire faster and reward good workers.

"Now NSPS is going to replace a 50-year-old system," Secretary England said. "We're going to replace (the current system) with a very modern system that we need to attract, recruit, retain, compensate fairly and manage our employees."

The system will focus on performance, flexibility and accountability, the secretary said.

"It will be much more responsive to the national security environment, and ... it will fully preserve our employee protections,

our veterans preference and employee benefits," he said.

The first 60,000 people under the NSPS are scheduled to transfer to the system in July, at their current salaries. General-schedule workers will stop being GS-designated employees and will transfer to pay bands.

It will be a year before the first decisions are made on performance-based pay raises, officials said.

Dan Blair, the OPM's acting director, said the new rules will not change merit-system protections, whistle-blower protections, veterans preference, benefits, rules against prohibited practices or leave and work schedules.

The system will change the general-schedule system and job-classification standards.

It will give managers more flexibility in reassigning employees to fulfill critical needs and more flexibility in where employees will work.

"We have encouraged our unions to work constructively with us, and also with the federal mediation and conciliations services so we can find common ground and make this an even better system," Secretary England said.

However, five federal employees' unions announced they will challenge the system in court. The unions contend DOD and OPM officials have not adequately consulted with them.

Mr. Blair said that with NSPS, the entire federal government personnel system has "reached a tipping point." DOD, the Department of Homeland Security and a number of other federal agencies' employees will be covered under new, more responsive personnel rules.

"More federal workers will be covered by reformed and modernized systems than the current general schedule," he said. "These changes haven't come easily. But this new system (shows) that transformation can take place." (*Courtesy of American Forces Press Service*)



## CDC questions answered

By Chief Master Sgt. William King

Here's a compilation of questions concerning CDC 00006 and 00009:

♦ In Volume 1, Profession of Arms, page 2-57, beginning at line 23 from the bottom, change number 6 to read:

• 6. Military strategists focus primarily on three categories; relative interests, their intensity and the risks involved. Intensity is extremely crucial because it distinctly defines where the military will and will not focus its energies.

♦ In Volume 2, Leadership and Management Skills, refer to the Jan-Feb issue of the IMA Update for information concern-

ing the ORM Web site.

♦ In Volume 3, Communication Skills, the answers to Self Test Questions in Section 406, the answers to questions 1 and 2 are transposed.

♦ Also in Volume 3, Communication Skills, page 2-19 on lines 16 - 18, number 1 and number 2 should be switched.

This does not include answers that amount to clarifying the wording of some questions or paragraphs that an individual or two asked about.

Any End of Course Exam issues, have been addressed.

Have a question about a CDC? There's a fair chance someone has already asked

that question ... here's where to go to find the answer:

\* Use an Internet Browser to go to <http://afiadl.custhelp.com>

\* Click the ANSWERS tab (it's blue and a couple of inches from the top of the window)

\* Select "Professional Military Education" in the "Categories" field

\* Select the applicable CDC in the "Sub" field

\* When the list of questions/issues is displayed, click the ones which are of interest.

If a question isn't listed, members can use the "Ask a question" feature of the web site, or e-mail [william.king@maxwell.af.mil](mailto:william.king@maxwell.af.mil)

Thanks to Mr. Morrison at AFIADL for maintaining this FAQ.



# Health briefs

## Members need RCPHA

As everyone is aware, the **Reserve Component Physical Health Assessment**, consisting of a medical and dental exam, is required on a yearly basis.

Although members are encouraged to have their exam done at the base where they are attached, members are authorized to have their medical exam at any active duty military treatment facility. There is a misconception that members must be on active duty status in order to get scheduled and be seen. This is not the case! Everyone is encouraged to have their exams done during their annual tour or while performing an IDT, but do not have to be in status to have these done.

ARPC frequently encounters scheduling personnel at the MTF who do not understand the requirement and access issues. Members who run into that problem should speak to the facility RCPHA Project Manager or the facility patient advocate. Members who are still having problems getting scheduled, should inform their program manager. As a last resort, contact ARPC/SGO for assistance. This is a requirement and they will help members meet it.

Dental exams may be done on a space available basis at the active duty clinic, but scheduling is often very difficult. Remember IMAs can submit DD Form 2813 from their civilian dentist annually.

Lastly, there are important changes to the annual RCPHA requirements. As of May 2004, all clinical preventive services have been removed as requirements to ARPC examinations.

This essentially means that items such as mammography, pap smears, PSA tests, etc., are no longer required and will not be performed as part of a routine RCPHA.

The reason for this change is that these items are not required for mobility and do not directly impact medical readiness.

## Fitness Testing

Did you know members can view their AF fitness test score online. Simply logon to **www.my.af.mil** to establish an account on the AF Portal. Once an account and password has been established, members can access the AF Fitness Management System. Upon entry members will be able to view their last fitness test score and utilize the fitness calculator to identify improvement opportunities.

All IMAs were required to be tested NLT Dec. 31, 2004. If an IMA has been tested, they can contact their Unit Fitness Program Manager to schedule their test immediately. If they have tested and their score is not visible in the AFFMS, they should take the written copy of their fitness score to their UFPM and request they enter it in the database.

For questions regarding the AF Fitness test for IMAs, contact the UFPM or Senior Master Sgt. Patrick O'Neal at **patrick.oneal@arpc.denver.af.mil**

# JAG and paralegal news

## IMA Judge Advocate/Paralegal Program Management Consolidation

On Dec. 15, Lt. Gen. John Bradley, Chief of Air Force Reserve, approved/directed the consolidation of IMA judge advocate/paralegal program management functions, currently done at Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center/JA, Denver, to move to Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command/JA, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., and HQ USAF/JAR, Washington, D.C.

While all IMA personnel records will remain at ARPC, the management functions performed for IMA judge advocates and paralegals will move with a target date for completion of Sep. 30.

Guard and Reserve judge advocate recruiting, accessions and reattachments will move to HQ USAF/JAR.

All other IMA judge advocate and paralegal management functions will move to HQ AFRC/JA.

Although this will be a significant change, all efforts are being made to ensure the transfer is seamless as possible. Additional information will be forthcoming as the plans for the move progresses.

A portion of the current legal office will remain at HQ ARPC, Denver, Colo. In addition to the Staff Judge Advocate and Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, the Adverse Actions Division and the General Law Division will remain in Denver.

## FY 05 JAG School Course

**Optional IMA Judge Advocate Courses:** If interested, submit a WOTS request 75-90 days prior to class start date. ARPC/JA will notify those selected to attend approximately 60 days prior to the course.

◆ Environmental Law Update Course - June 27-29

◆ International Law Course - June 8-10

◆ Military Judges Seminar - April 19-22

◆ Operations Law Course (*must be scheduled or willing to deploy*) - Sept. 19-29

### Optional IMA Paralegal Courses:

If interested, the IMA paralegal must submit a letter to ARPC/JA stating the reasons for wanting to attend the course. It must include the Law Office Manager's endorsement with their recommendation and why. A board will be held to select attendees. Selectees will be notified to submit a WOTS request a minimum of 60 days prior to the class start date.

**Law Office Managers Course** - June 13-24 - Suspense: April 1

If interested, submit a WOTS request 75-90 days prior to class start date. ARPC/JA will notify those selected to attend approximately 60 days prior to the course.

### Operations Law Course

(*must be scheduled or willing to deploy*) - Sept. 19 -29

## Chaplain news

### Reserve Chaplain Service training conference

Chaplain, (Brig. Gen.) Cecil Richardson, Deputy Chief of the Chaplain Service, will speak to the first conference combining unit and individual reservists from the chaplain service.

The conference takes place April 19-22 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel, Atlanta Ga. Plan to travel on April 18 for an ice-breaker that evening at 6 p.m.

The last workshop session is the MAJCOM breakouts Friday morning. Members will not be released until after 12 p.m. April 22; do not plan travel before late afternoon that day. Additional travel for Saturday will not be authorized.

For further information, please call Ch, (Lt. Col.) Robert Gallagher, HQ AFRC/HCX, at 1-800-223-1784, ext 72127.

### Calling Robins, not Denver

As the Chaplain Directorate heads into the homestretch of consolidating its program management at HQ AFRC/HC, it's time for all Chaplain Service IMAs to start calling Georgia for issues such as volunteer manning assistance, base attachments, and school tours.

Until summer, the Denver office will remain in place but will be busy handing off program management to the office at Robins AFB, GA. To reach that office, please call 1-800-223-1784, ext

71475, or (478) 327-1475. For general personnel matters, such as retirements and separations, continue to call the customer service number for HQ ARPC.

### IMA participation and training

Every week our office receives questions from IMA chaplains and chaplain assistants needing guidance about participation and training.

AFI 36-8001 governs these concerns and can be found in the publications section of the ARPC Web site.

Individual reservists should complete ARPC Form 59 annually for review. Be sure to go over this planning calendar with your active duty supervisor. Consider the best dates to make the most of training opportunities at your base. Calculate your participation to include 12 annual tour days and 12 IDT days both in your fiscal year and in your R/R year. Remind your supervisor that the primary reason for your participation is training (not manning assistance).

If you have recently submitted a Form 59, please mark your calendar to submit an updated version by Sept. 15.

Please remember to get prior authorization for paid IDT periods on AF Form 40A from the proper official at your unit of attachment, and for non-paid IDT periods from AFRC/HC. The IDT is for training, whether paid or non-paid. If your base needs you for manning assistance, the wing chaplain should request MPA days from HQ ARPC/HC.

### Budget from page 3

"No sir, there is not," General Jumper replied.

But the Air Force future is not just the

F/A-22. The senate committee requested further discussion on continuing J-model C-130 Hercules production rather than scrapping the upgrade program and suffering contract cancellation costs.

The proposed \$102.9 billion Air Force budget represents a real growth of about \$4 billion over the fiscal 2005 budget of \$96 billion after adjustment for inflation and rising fuel costs. (*Air Force News Service*)

## Briefs

### Continuation consideration

In accordance with Title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 14701(a), a reserve officer who is required to be removed from the reserve active status list (RASL) under section 14505, 14506, or 14507 of Title 10 may, subject to the needs of the service and to section 14509, be considered for continuation on the RASL by a selection board convened under section 14101(b) of Title 10.

Upon presidential approval, HQ ARPC/DPPS sends congratulatory letters to Reservists who are selected for continuation on the RASL. Reservists are required to accept or decline the continuation offer

within 60 calendar days in accordance with AFI 36-2504, Chapter 10, paragraph 2.6.2.

DPPS must receive a written notification within 60 calendar days from the date of their letter of your decision to accept or decline continuation. Failure to do so will result in discharge on the adjusted mandatory separation date (MSD) or transfer to the Retired Reserve, if eligible.

No extension to the 60 days will be granted. Reservists are also required to notify their MPF of their decision to accept or decline the offer of continuation.

Questions concerning continuation or MSDs should be referred to HQ ARPC/DPPS, Separations Division at 1-800-525-

0102, DSN 926-6362 or (303) 676-6362.

### Last six requirement repealed

The FY 2005 NDAA repealed the requirement provided under Title 10 U.S.C., Section 12731 to complete the last six years of qualifying service in a Reserve component.

Effective May 1, implementation date of this provision of law, to meet eligibility for Reserve retired pay at age 60, a member is qualified by completing 20 years of satisfactory service without serving the last six years of that 20 years in a Reserve component

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## Briefs

### *Common Access Card*

A new CAC became effective in Oct 2004. On the new card the status field will not identify servicemembers as being active duty or Reserve Component and the barcode was enhanced to improve information readability by the scanner.

The status field on the CAC was established to help support the control of the Commissary Privilege Card issued to Reserve Component members. However, the 2004 National Defense Authorization Act allows all Selected Reserve, National Guard Members and their dependents unlimited commissary privileges.

CACs issued prior to Oct 2004 will remain valid until Oct 2007 or until the card expires, whichever comes first.

### *CONUS COLA information*

Reservists are not entitled to CONUS cost of living allowance for the first 139 days of a call or order to active duty. The exception is a contingency order.

CONUS COLA is only paid to members who are in the commuting area, and is based on the zip code on the orders.

Additional information can be found at <http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/ccola.html>.

### *Extended deployments affect only 200*

Air Force officials are designating some positions in U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility as 365-day extended deployments in an effort to provide stability and allow for long-term relationship building with host governments. The new tour lengths will affect only about 200 key and critical operational and joint task force staff positions. People in the remaining positions will serve in the current air and space expeditionary force structure.

Although these deployments may appear to be remote tours, they are not permanent change-of-station moves. There will be career benefits for Airmen serving these extended temporary assignments.

Airmen serving the 365-day TDYs will receive short-tour credit and be exempt from AEF or other contingency deployments for six months following their return home.

For more information, go to the story on Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009878>.

### *Airmen must adhere to war trophy mailing restrictions*

Although it is tempting to bring back reminders of service in a military campaign, with few exceptions, taking or retaining individual souvenirs or trophies is prohibited.

It is against the law to take certain souvenirs from a war zone. Shipping weapons as personal property is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

War trophies, defined as enemy weapons, ammunition, explosives or items of equipment, are nonmailable. This includes live or spent rounds, pistols, machine guns, weapon magazines and anti-personnel mines.

For more information, contact officials at the post office, customs office or legal office.

### *Medals updated in personnel system*

Air Force officials have completed a batch update to currently reflect award of the Korean Defense Service Medal and Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal in the military personnel data system.

Airmen eligible to wear either medal can view their decoration history in virtual military personnel flight to verify the update was successful. They can contact their commander's support staff if they qualified for either decoration, but their decoration history was not updated. For more information on criteria for issue and wear of each medal, go to [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/awards/Recently%20approved%20awards.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/awards/Recently%20approved%20awards.htm), or call the ARPC contact center at (800) 525-0102.

### *Troops deployed in combat areas get tax credit*

Servicemembers receiving federal tax exemptions for some or all of their military pay may now elect to apply for certain tax credit options. Troops deployed to combat zones can now apply for tax refunds based on earned income tax credits, as well as additional child tax credits.

Servicemembers who want to apply for the credit refunds are required to fill out and file a federal tax return. Enlisted troops serving in combat areas already have all of their military pay excluded from federal taxes, while officers in combat zones can exclude as much as \$6,529 of their monthly pay. Troops deployed to noncombat overseas areas have until June 15 to file their income taxes. Troops serving in a combat zone have up to 180 days to file their taxes after departing the area.

For more information, go to the story on Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009850>.

### *College grants offered to Airmen's families*

The Air Force Aid Society will offer as many as 4,500 college education grants to Air Force family members through the Gen. Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program. Applications for the \$1,500 need-based grants must be received by March 11.

The program is open to dependent children of Airmen on active duty, in the Guard or Reserve performing full time active duty, retired or deceased. Spouses of active duty and deceased Airmen are also eligible. For more information, go to the Air Force Aid Society Web site at [www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org) or call (800) 429-9475 for an application brochure.

### *AF one source face to face counseling*

Air Force One Source provides personalized consultation, referrals to military and community resources, on-line articles, educational materials (for example life articles, booklets, audio recordings), translations into 150 different languages, on-line workshops, and customized research—at no cost to Air Force active duty, Guard and Reserve members and their families. AF One Source Face-to-Face counseling was approved by the AF Community Action Information Board Dec. 14.

Implementation of the program begins once the protocol is

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coordinated. Air Force One Source consultants are licensed, credentialed counselors. If the AFOS consultant or Air Force helping agency provider determines short-term counseling is appropriate, a caller can be referred to a local qualified counselor. The AFOS consultant reviews the caller's benefit of up to 6 short-term face-to-face counseling sessions per issue per year and offers the names of local providers that are a match for the caller's issue. AF One Source can be accessed anytime at 1-800-707-5784 (CONUS), 1-800-707-57844 (International), or at [www.airforceonesource.com](http://www.airforceonesource.com) (Login: airforce Password: ready).

### ***DoD seeks people with language skills, regional expertise***

If you speak a foreign language or have the desire and aptitude to learn one, Uncle Sam wants you. Defense Department officials are looking for people with language skills to support not only current operations, but future ones as well. DoD has come up short on linguists for areas of the world that have attracted increased U.S. interest during the war on terrorism.

For more information, go to the story on Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009745> or go to the Defense Language Institute Web site at <http://www.dlilfc.edu>.

### ***Flu shots mandatory where available***

Flu shots are mandatory for all active duty, Reserve and Guard Airmen, where the supply is available. Because of low supplies, flu shots were previously limited to deployed Airmen, those preparing for deployment and others identified as "at risk." As supplies have increased, those limitations have been lifted. Airmen should check with their local medical treatment facility for vaccine availability.

### ***Afghanistan campaign medal/Iraqi campaign medal criteria***

The president signed the Executive Order Nov. 29 establishing the Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign Medals. OSD is coordinating policy for the ACM and ICM. Once policy has been approved, each service will implement its own policy. The following White House link contains additional information <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2004/11/20041129-11.html>.

### ***Changes to officer promotion documents***

Starting with calendar year 2005 active duty promotion boards, major changes will be made to the Officer Selection Brief, Officer Pre-selection Brief, and Duty Qualification History Brief.

For all line officers, including the Judge Advocate General corps, academic education information, including bachelor's degrees, will no longer be shown on these documents.

However, the assignment history block will continue to reflect information on those officers sent to Air Force sponsored developmental education, and the associated training reports will continue to be filed in the officer selection record.

This new policy will not apply to Chaplain or Health Profession officers. Academic education for these non-line officers will remain on applicable promotion documents. These changes will

apply to all boards considering officers for promotion through the rank of colonel. In addition, the overseas duty history block on these three briefs will be also be removed and replaced with a deployment history block.

This new block will display a member's last six deployments, in excess of 45 days, since Sept. 11, 2001. The assignment history section will continue to reflect overseas duty.

This change applies to all officers, regardless of promotion category. All of these changes will affect promotion documents only. Academic education will remain on other development team documents, such as Assignment Management System SURFs.

The Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve components will implement the same procedures beginning with promotion boards convening after Jan. 1, 2006. AF/DP have released a message to the field in Jan. with additional information.

### ***Documenting fitness on EPRs/OPRs***

In Oct. 2004, AF/DP advised the field that specific fitness assessment scores were prohibited from being included on performance reports, but that we would begin looking at policy changes that would allow documentation of individual fitness in performance reports and unit fitness success in commander evaluation reports. A "Documenting Fitness" Integrated Process Team has since been stood-up and is in the process of reviewing the methodology, metrics and documentation methods associated with EPRs, to include a review of our Sister Services' performance reports, documentation of fitness scores, and the impacts of failing fitness assessments. A similar IPT focused on documenting fitness on OPRs was convened in January. Once complete, recommendations from both IPTs will be staffed to the CMSAF and CSAF for approval and implementation.

### ***Government meal rate***

Effective Jan. 1, 2005, the government meal rate for uniformed travelers increased to \$8.90 per day. POC: SMSgt Bill Barauskas, DSN 227-0683.

### ***Mandatory deployed commander LOE***

With the continued increase in expeditionary mission requirements, Air Force officials have recently implemented a policy to enhance officer evaluations by ensuring performance in key deployment leadership positions is documented. As of Sept. 1, 2004, (beginning with the Air and Space Expeditionary Force cycle five), deployment LOEs are mandatory for all colonels and below occupying commander positions at the squadron, group, or wing level on deployments of 45 days or more. The reporting period covers the assumption to relinquishment of command, but does not include travel days. There's no minimum period of supervision required for the rating official. LOEs continue to remain optional for all other deployed Airmen.

### ***Standard CONUS lodging per diem rate increase***

A General Services Administration analysis of lodging data

**See "Briefs" on page 13**



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revealed that the FY 2005 maximum per diem rates for locations within the Continental United States should be updated to provide for the reimbursement of Federal employees' expenses covered by per diem.

The maximum lodging amounts in existing per diem localities increases the standard CONUS lodging amount from \$55 to \$60 (New Lodging rate-\$60; Meal and Incidental Expenses - \$31 - Total standard CONUS Rate-\$91). In an effort to improve the ability of the per diem rates to meet the lodging demands of Federal travelers, GSA has integrated average daily rate cost data obtained from the lodging industry into the per diem rate-setting process.

The use of such data in the per diem rate setting process enhances the Government's ability to obtain policy compliant lodging where it is needed. This notice applies to travel performed on or after Oct. 1, 2004.

### ***Wear test of Air Force utility uniform***

As of Feb. 1, the Air Force discontinued wearing the blue utility uniform. Test participants have been notified via e-mail from the AF Clothing Office as to the disposition instructions for the uniform. The durability and functionality of the uniform features was determined based on Airmen feedback.

As a result, the CSAF decided to change the color to more light green and tan with a little blue and digitize the Tiger Stripe pattern. In June 2005, the SERE and Special Ops career fields at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash. and Hurlburt Field, Fla. will test this new color. The test board is not looking for any additional volunteers.

### ***Instruction clarifies enlisted Airmen's roles, responsibilities***

Air Force officials further clarified and standardized the roles, responsibilities and duty titles of its enlisted Airmen with the latest version of Air Force Instruction 36-2618, The Enlisted Force Structure. The document substantially revises the old version of the regulation.

The instruction serves as the definitive guide for developing an enlisted-force structure that best meets mission requirements while providing a stable career field structure and opportunity for professional growth. Besides general responsibilities, each chapter spells out specific responsibilities for each rank. For more information, go to the story on Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009563>. The instruction is available online at [www.e-publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-publishing.af.mil).

### ***Air Force Assistance Fund campaign goes until May 6***

The Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign runs now through May 6. Program officials invite Airmen to contribute to any of the Air Force's four official charitable organizations. The organizations benefiting from the campaign include the Air Force Aid Society, the Air Force Enlisted Village Indigent Widow's Fund, the Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund, and General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.

The charities benefit active duty, Reserve, Guard, retired

servicemembers, surviving spouses and families. This is the 32nd year of the fund drive, where the four charities receive 100 percent of designated contributions.

For more information, go to the story on Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009671>.

### ***More Airmen eligible for Air Force Recognition ribbon***

More Airmen can wear the Air Force Recognition Ribbon for winning service-level competitions and awards. A recent change to an Air Force instruction allows members of small teams participating in events such as Defender Challenge, Air Mobility Command Rodeo or the William Tell competition to wear the decoration.

A small team is defined as below flight level. Examples include a team for a specific event, or an airlift or missile crew of the year, or a weapons load crew. The complete instruction governing the ribbon, AFI 36-2805, Special Trophies and Awards, is being revised to reflect the recent change.

For more information, go to the story on Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009496>.

### ***New year brings new missions for AFR***

This year, citizen Airmen will see some new missions headed their way as they continue their efforts to fight and support the war against terrorism. Responding to the active duty needs, reservists will take part in Future Total Force initiatives that will test new organizational constructs to integrate reserve-component and active duty Airmen in virtually every facet of Air Force operations.

Successes with Reserve associate units, a generally more experienced force than their active duty counterparts and the ability to provide nearly 20 percent of the Air Force's capability with about four percent of the Air Force's budget are just some strengths AFRC brings to Future Total Force.

For more information, go to the story on Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009556>.

### ***'Andro' supplement now off limits***

Airmen who take androstenedione to increase muscle mass will now have to ditch the supplement and just do extra repetitions at the gym. Under a new law, the prohormone androstenedione is classified as a Schedule III controlled substance.

Schedule III substances are those defined by the government as having a potential for abuse.

The drug, commonly called "andro," is used by bodybuilders to help build mass. Other drugs listed as Schedule III substances include the anesthetic ketamine, called "Special K" by the club-goers who use it, testosterone, and forms of codeine and morphine.

For more information, go to the story on Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009512>.

